



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

PACIFIC AIR FORCES

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Dear Arctic Warriors

As you know, Elmendorf will transition to a new street naming and building numbering scheme on 1 May. To minimize impact to you, we have provided 15 change of address cards and your new mailing address. You can also visit our web site, www.elmendorf.af.mil, which lists the new addresses for all buildings and homes on base.

In addition to providing these address cards, we wanted to let you know more about why we are making this change. We understand this causes a certain degree of inconvenience for the base community and hope that giving you a better feel for why we're doing this will help minimize your frustration.

The current street naming and building numbering scheme was developed in the 1940s and with growth of the installation over the last 50 years, has outlived its usefulness. With the grand openings of the new medical center, Joint Military Mall, and the C-130 squadron complex scheduled for this summer, we have an opportunity to coordinate this project with a significant number of workcenter moves. We have also planned the changeover to be complete prior to the start of our PCS season, to avoid further complicating an already hectic time for newly arrived Elmendorf personnel.

The benefits of this new system are threefold--enhanced response for emergency services, improved productivity for our base populace, and an increased focus on our Air Force heritage.

While the majority of our current emergency responders know their way around the installation very well, the response time for new fire fighters, security forces, and medical personnel transferring to Elmendorf, will be significantly decreased. Similarly, the time we invest acclimating our new emergency responders to the logically organized system will be decreased.

For the same reason this system improves efficiencies for our emergency responders, it also enhances daily operations and decreases unnecessary frustration for the balance of the Elmendorf population. With the old numbering and address systems, newcomers and people transiting Elmendorf had no systematic way of navigating. This system, based on a logical numerical and alphabetical progression, will be much easier to use.

Our choice to change street names to those of Air Force pioneers was intentional. We wanted to introduce new names that carry with them a sense of pride in our Air Force heritage. Understanding and appreciating our tremendous history is an important part of building a cohesive, proud Elmendorf team. We've highlighted enlisted heroes' names in an enlisted housing area and named streets around the wing headquarters for major air campaigns in which the wing participated. This, combined with a new focus on Air Force heritage in general, will go far to help recognize the contributions of past leaders and lay the foundations for future success.

Thank you in advance for helping us make this transition as smooth as possible. We will stand up a dedicated help line at the Housing Office (552-6400) from 19 Apr - 7 May. If you have any questions you can't get answered by visiting our web site, please give the help line a call.



JONATHAN S. GRATION
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